



GOVERNOR'S ARIZONA READY EDUCATION COUNCIL MINUTES

General Meeting – April 17, 2014

10:10 A.M.

Location: 1700 W. Washington
2nd Floor Conference Room
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Members Present: Dr. Craig Barrett, Tim Carter, Pearl Esau, Eileen Klein, Amanda McAdams, Diane McCarthy, Tom Tyree, Kathy Player, Dr. Jim Zaharis, Brad Holaway, Superintendent John Huppenthal, Jacob Moore, Colleen Niccum, and Merl Waschler.

Members Absent: Rep. Jeff Dial (ex-officio), Rep. Doris Goodale (ex-officio), Dr. Rufus Glasper, Onnie Shekerjian, Sandra Watson, Kimberly Yee (ex-officio), Janna Day, Glen Hamer,

Staff Present: Rebecca Gau and Dale Frost

Call to Order, Welcome & Introductions

Dr. Craig Barrett called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. and provided welcoming remarks and introduced the purpose of the meeting, which was to discuss updates on the taskforce, legislative priorities, and data systems.

Dr. Barrett called for an approval of the March 5th, 2014 Council meeting minutes as presented. Motioned for approval; the motion passed unanimously.

Presentation: Teachers Talking Standards:

Amy Romero, International Baccalaureate Coordinator for Mountain View Preparatory, and Tyler Novak, Director of Arts and Humanities at Mingus Union High School, discussed their success with a comprehensive education program between their respective schools. Amy and Tyler recognized the critical importance of creating an interdisciplinary curriculum that allowed for successful integration of students from Kindergarten to 12th grade between their respective schools and others within the districts. Together, Mountain View Preparatory and the Mingus Union High School have collaborated to create a seamless, K-12 educational experience which encompasses Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM), and is aligned with Arizona College and Career Readiness Standards (ACCRS).

“It’s a cohesive learning environment taking all the subject areas and lining them up, which is again, I believe an IB philosophy,” Mr. Novak said. “We’re trying to build a culture and community of academic rigor.”

Update: March Public Opinion Survey

Rebecca Gau, Director of Education Innovation (GOEI) updated the Council on the March Public Opinion Survey. Overall, awareness of ACCRS has increased but there has been a decrease in favorability over time. The likelihood to engage in activities in support of ACCRS has stayed the same. Going forward, focus should be placed on addressing public awareness of the specifics of the standards, as favorability increases with knowledge. Currently, 20% of participants recognized Arizona Ready.

Update: Arizona Aims Higher

Pearl Esau, Executive Director of Expect More Arizona (EMA), updated the Council on Arizona Aims Higher. The purpose of the campaign is to increase awareness and support for ACCRS, build public support for a rigorous, standard assessment and activate support through calls to action and social media.

Ms. Esau discussed EMA's recent media buy, aimed at increasing awareness for ACCRS and driving sign up online. This campaign features voices and perspectives of Arizona Teachers and targets parents. Campaign efforts include: Ongoing Op-Eds, Blogs- Editorial Calendar, Social Media, PSA's, radio spots, etc.

Up to this point, six key bills against standards and assessments have been defeated or stalled. Additionally, \$8M has been secured in the FY15 Budget for statewide assessment.

Update: Council Retreat

Ms. Gau provided the Council with an update on the proposed agenda for the upcoming Arizona Ready Education Council retreat at Carnegie Library on June 10. The retreat will focus on the final report from the Graduation Rate Task Force (GRTF), revising the reform plan, council sustainability and a transition plan for the future. An outside facilitator may be brought in for several discussions.

Update: Communication

Ms. Gau updated the Council on GOEI's communication efforts. Quarterly goals for Facebook, Twitter, and the newsletter have been reached. Facebook has 22,912 Likes as of 4/11/14. The March average daily reach was 28,645. Twitter has 786 followers. Newsletters have 1,065 signed up.

Update: Legislative Priorities

Dale Frost, Education Policy Advisor to the Governor, updated the Council on the legislative budget. Mr. Frost stressed that inflation funding will be a big issue with schools. Overall, \$134.1M has been allocated for K-12 investments; while an additional \$45.1M has been allocated for Higher Education Investments. K-12 Investments include: Student Success Funding, New State Assessment, ADE Data System, Inflation funding, District-Sponsored Charter Schools, JTED Funding and IT Certification Bills. Higher Education Investments for Universities include: Parity Funding, Retained Bond Refinancing Savings, UA Cooperative Extension and NAU's Research partnership with TGEN. Higher Education funding for the community colleges will be used towards STEM and Workforce Development. Additionally, schools that previously converted to district-sponsored charter school funding will have to convert back at the end of the year due to the one year cap the legislature imposed. About 30 education bills are still progressing, most are minor.

Presentation: ABOR High School Report Card:

Dan Anderson, Head of the Institutional Research Group for the Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR), discussed the ABOR High School Report Card with the Council. Data from these reports will inform Arizona's policymakers, school leaders and parents about the success of student as they move from K-12 through postsecondary education and beyond. These report cards are designed and distributed to Arizona's high schools to help reflect on how qualified and prepared graduates are for success in post-secondary education, quantitatively showing how students are transitioning post high school.

Mr. Anderson reports that today less than 18% of high school graduates have received a 4-year degree within 6 years of receiving their high school diploma, whereas the statewide average for holding a bachelor's degree is 28%.

Update: SLDS

Mark Masterson, Chief Information Officer with the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) updated the Council on the Statewide Longitudinal Data System (SLDS). The goal of the system is to allow teachers and the public to have access to up-to-date information on Arizona schools. AZ Dash gives the public access to data that can be used in the classroom and for resource planning at the district and school level. The new web-site azreporttime.com let parents see how well their child school is doing and to see how schools throughout the state are rated.

Mr. Masterson also provided the Council with information on the AZ Dash/ADEConnect Rollout. As of the second week of April, 491 outreach emails have been sent, 356 outreach calls have been completed, 202 have signed up, 170 ADEConnect installations have taken place and training has been delivered to 95 sites.

Council Comments

There were no comments from the council.

Public Comments

There were no requests from the public to address the Council.

Adjourn

With no further business before the Council, the meeting was adjourned.